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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 785
By Winningham

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of Hairold Junior Strode of Clay County.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly were greatly saddened to learn of the death of Hairold Junior Strode; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Strode was born on November 30, 1954 in Moss, and was an exemplary public servant who worked to improve the quality of life for his fellow citizens in numerous capacities; and

WHEREAS, he was the son of Lulie May Trobaugh Strode and the late Floyd Gilbert Strode of Clay County; and

WHEREAS, Hairold routinely performed dangerous wildland firefighting duties in an honorable and selfless manner to protect the lives of fellow firefighters as well as the lives and property of the citizens of Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, on November 10, 2001, Hairold Strode lost his life while performing hazardous firefighting duties on Daddy Ridge in Crawford, Tennessee; and

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WHEREAS, Mr. Strode held several jobs while a resident of Clay County, but often claimed that he was most proud of his position as a part-time wildland firefighter with the Tennessee Department of Agriculture, Division of Forestry; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Stroud was an outstanding citizen in his community and was greatly admired by his friends and co-workers in the Division of Forestry; and

WHEREAS, he was a person that enjoyed the simple things in life, such as being outdoors hunting and fishing; he loved just sitting in the yard watching his grandchildren play; Hairold enjoyed making items out of cedar and collecting Dale Earnhardt and Mickey Mouse memorabilia; and

WHEREAS, Hairold was well-known for his gentle ways and ever-present sense of humor; he greatly enjoyed making family and friends laugh by wearing a werewolf mask while driving his car, and playing jokes on family members at Christmas time with unusual gifts; and

WHEREAS, he was the devoted husband of Vickie Diana Gerald's Strode, the father of James Gilbert and Joseph Lee, and the loving grandfather of Logan Gilbert, Rebecca Deann, and Caitlin Deann; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Strode will also be dearly missed by a brother, Charles Mitchel Strode, and a half-brother, David Wayne Strode; he was preceded in death by a brother, Floyd Wayne Strode, and a half-brother, Floyd Junior Strode; and

WHEREAS, Hairold's passing has left a void in the lives of his family, his many friends in Clay County and his former co-workers with the Division of Forestry that will not soon be filled; and

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED SECOND GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, That this General Assembly pays tribute to the life and memory of Mr. Hairold Junior Strode, and recognize him for representing the very best of personal commitment, courage, and the Volunteer spirit.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the members of this General Assembly extend their deepest sympathy to Vickie Strode and condolences to the family and friends of Mr. Strode.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.